France as site for 13 billion demo experimental fusion reactor

2463. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint declaration by the representatives of various nations have chosen France as the site for a 13 billion demo experimental fusion reactor;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that India is not a part of this joint venture although it has the potential to produce limitless source of clean electric power; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. The European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), the Governments of China, Japan, South Korea, Russian Federation and the United States of America have chosen Cadarache, France as the site for an International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) based of fusion technologies. At present the estimated cost is 5 billion US$.

(b) and (c) India is not a part of ITER project at present. However, Government of India has decided to explore participation in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor as a full partner and letters expressing India's interest have been sent to all ITER partners.

Power generation in Bihar

† 2464. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the installed capacity of power generation in Bihar;

(b) the total quantum of power generated as against the installed capacity;

(c) the quantum of power required in Bihar at present and in what way the requirement is met; and

(d) the time-frame to achieve the target of electrification in all the villages and townships and the present position in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.